

## Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

EB-07 COME-00 /067 W

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P 182028Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3448

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, DR

SUBJ: DOMINICAN PERCEPTIONS OF US POLICY

REF: STATE 86289

1. PRESS COVERAGE OF PRESIDENT FORD'S APRIL 10 SPEECH WAS GENERALLY LIMITED TO WIRE SERVICE REPORTS OF AP, UPI AND EFE. THERE WERE NO SIGNIFICANT EDITORIAL COMMENTS.

2. EVENTS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA HAVE PROVOKED LITTLE PUBLIC REACTION IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC EXCEPT FOR ONE SHORT EDITORIAL AND EXTENSIVE COMMENTS BY EX-PRESIDENT JUAN BOSCH, PERPETUAL CRITIC OF THE US.

3. MEMORY OF 1965 INTERVENTION, HOWEVER, STILL HAS IMMEDIACY IN DR AND DOMINICANS RELATE "SUCCESSFUL" US INTERVENTION HERE WITH "UNSUCCESSFUL" ONE THERE. THE LIMITED REACTIONS HAVE BEEN PREDICTABLE. THE MOST CONSERVATIVE SECTORS IN DR, SUCH AS MILITARY, LANDHOLDERS AND BUSINESSMEN, TEND TO INTERPRET INABILITY OF US TO ACHIEVE ITS GOALS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA, AND WILL INTERPRET A FAILURE OF CONGRESS TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT FUNDS, AS INDICATIONS THAT US IS LESS RELIABLE AN ALLY THAN FORMERLY. THEY NOW HAVE DOUBTS THAT US WOULD AGAIN INTERVENE IN

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D.R. IF CIRCUMSTANCES LIKE THOSE OF 1965 SHOULD RECUR. THIS

UNEASINESS ABOUT US WILL TO INTERVENE IS SHARED BY THOSE  
IN OTHER SECTORS WHO RELATE COUNTRY'S PROSPERITY TO  
US MILITARY INTERVENTION.

4. OF THOSE WHO DISAPPROVED OF MASSIVE US INTERVENTION  
IN SOUTHEAST ASIA THERE ARE TWO DISTINCT GROUPS. THE  
EXTREME LEFTISTS AND CONFIRMED ANTI-YANKEES WHO REJOICE AT  
US FAILURES HAVE ALL ALONG BELIEVED IN INEVITABILITY OF  
PRESENT OUTCOME OF SOUTHEAST FIGHTING. OTHER AND MORE  
SIGNIFICANT GROUP MADE UP OF SMALL INTELLECTUAL ELITE OF  
WRITERS, EDUCATORS AND TECHNICIANS, FRIENDLY TO US. ALWAYS  
HAD RESERVATIONS ABOUT WISDOM OF US MILITARY INTERVENTION  
IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. THIS GROUP, WHICH INCLUDES MANY OF THE  
COUNTRY'S MOST THOUGHTFUL POTENTIAL LEADERS, TEND SEE  
US WORLD STATURE TEMPORARILY DIMINISHED; AT THE SAME TIME,  
THEY FEEL RELIEF THAT WITH REMOVAL OF DIVISIVE AND, IN  
THEIR OPINION, QUESTIONABLE ENGAGEMENT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA  
TERMINATED, US WILL BE MORE FREE TO ASSERT EFFECTIVE  
LEADERSHIP IN LATIN AMERICAN AND THE WORLD AND PERHAPS EVEN  
TO REGAIN SOME OF THE MORAL STATURE THAT WAS, IN THEIR  
OPINION, TARNISHED IN THE LONG MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN  
SOUTHEAST ASIA.  
HURWITCH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, SPEECHES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 75 STATE 86289  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DOMINICAN PERCEPTIONS OF US POLICY  
**TAGS:** PFOR, DR, US, XC, (FORD, GERALD R)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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